



# ADRC Highlights

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➤ **ADRC Collaboration with China**

□ **International Forum of City Disaster Prevention and Mitigation on 25-26 May**

On occasion of the 8th China International High-Tech Expo, International Forum of City Disaster Prevention and Mitigation was held on 25-26 May 2005 at Beijing 21th Century Hotel, China, supported by the Government of China. It collected over 150 participants including invited experts and high level representatives of disaster management-related authorities such as China Earthquake Administration, Ministry of Civil Affairs, and China Meteorology Bureau. The forum was convened to (1) to raise awareness and administrative level of various organizations and agencies on disaster prevention and mitigation, (2) to strengthen construction of city's disaster prevention and mitigation structure, and (3) to improve communication and strength cooperation among stakeholders.

ADRC Researcher, Mr. Shingo Kochi was invited to make a presentation of Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) approach focusing on urban disaster reduction and international cooperation. Mr. Kochi also introduced ADRC's activities and contributions toward UN World Conference on Disaster held at Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in January 2005.



□ **Seminar on Bilateral Cooperation for Disaster Risk Management was held in Beijing on 26 May**

On 26 May 2005, Seminar on Bilateral Cooperation for Disaster Risk Management was held at Tsinghua University in Beijing, co-hosted by School of Public Policy and Management at Tsinghua University, and China National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation. The seminar was held aiming to promote cooperation and strengthen ties between Japan and China. 35 participants were from various organizations including JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) and Embassy of Japan from Japan side, and the Ministry of Civil Affairs and China Earthquake Administration from China side.



Professor Gu Lisheng at Tshinghua University delivered a keynote speech regarding China disaster

reduction policy and activities. Mr. Yuan Yi, Expert of National Disaster Reduction Center of China (NDRCC) and also ADRC former Visiting Researcher, made a presentation regarding Ministry of Civil Affairs's challenge for China disaster and emergency management.

In the following, vigorous discussion was made with a variety of subjects such as human resource developing, information sharing, and effective countermeasures in urban disaster reduction. Lastly, it was agreed that cooperative projects should be implemented to promote Japan-China relationship in the field of disaster reduction. For more information, please contact Mr. Kochi ([kochi@adrc.or.jp](mailto:kochi@adrc.or.jp)).

➤ **Recent Natural Disasters in Asia:**

□ **Floods in China**

Heavy rains since the middle of June 2005 resulted in severe floods, landslides and mud flows in Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangdong, and Guangxi provinces. According to information released by the Ministry of Civil Affairs on 24 June, 567 people had lost their lives, 165 people were missing, 1.5 million people had been evacuated for resettlement, and 44.4 million people were affected in the above six provinces. The direct economic loss is estimated at CNY 23 billion (approximately USD 2.77 billion), which is higher than the annual average of the 1990s.

The Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Guangdong Province and Fujian Province have been severely affected by the floods. In Wuzhou, a city of Guangxi, the water level of the Xijiang River rose to 27 meters high, comparing to normal condition.

Deadly floods claimed 117 lives in the Shalan Township of Ning'an City in Heilongjiang Province, in northeastern China. The accident occurred on 10 June when 352 pupils and 31 teaching staff were attending classes in the low-lying primary school, which was submerged by the rapidly rising floods. Among the dead, 105 were primary school students.

The Ministry of Civil Affairs activated the Emergency Response Plan several times and sent 8 working teams to the affected areas to guide disaster relief activities and to console the disaster victims. In consultation with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Civil Affairs has allocated CNY 257 million (about USD 31.05 million) to the affected areas in the country and shipped 18,100 tents to Fujian, Hunan, Guangxi, Guizhou, and Guangdong for the temporary settlements.

For more information, please visit the Latest Disaster Information of ADRC website at <http://www.adrc.or.jp> (GLIDE: FF-2005-000081-CHN).

If you have comments or requests for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC at the address on the right.

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